

## PROCLAMATION **DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK**SEPTEMBER 13-19, 2009

WHEREAS, direct support workers, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers and paraprofessionals are the primary providers of publicly-funded, long-term support and services for millions of individuals nationwide; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide a broad range of services to individuals with disabilities to help them live independently, including preparing meals, helping with medications, bathing, dressing, and getting to school, work or other activities; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide essential care to help keep individuals with disabilities connected to their families and communities, and enable them to live meaningful and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, more than 3,900 North Dakotans are employed as direct support professionals in home- and community-based settings; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to recognize the dedication of direct support professionals and the important role they play in supporting the state's long-term care system and in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 13-19, 2009, DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK in the state of North Dakota.

John Hoeven

Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State

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